

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School News

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Please read carefully

Weekly Eastern Catholic Faith Formation (ECF) 2020 -- 2021 Religious Catechetical Classes for Public School Children, preparing for their First Penance with Solemn Holy Communion will begin in early October. Due to the Coronavirus-19 Pandemic, classes will be online. Please email Sr. Cecelia Sworin, SSMI at ecf.njsnucc@gmail.com to register your child(ren) as soon as possible during September. You will need to have, or make, a gmail.com email account, because the ECF classes will be conducted online using Google Meet and Google Classroom.

Further ECF details will be given to those who register. During this challenging time, we need to work together with patience, good-will, and most importantly, with hopeful trust in God's loving care while we adjust to new ways of living.

Please note that our Ukrainian Catholic children receive their First Holy Communion when they are Baptized and Chrismated. Then upon reaching the "age of reason" a child's conscience needs to be well prepared to receive the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation in preparation to responsibly receive Our Eucharistic Lord in Holy Communion. Therefore, 3 years of dedicated Religious Instruction is now required at our parish -- NO EXCEPTIONS.

If you have any concerns or questions about this year's ECF class, please contact Sr. Cecelia either by ECF email or the convent phone at 973-778-0208.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation. God bless you!



"God With Us Online" is offering free ECF catechetical webinars and other resources during COVID



from the young to the old.

Please watch its introductory video

"Important! Sunday School during Covid" video at God With Us Online

[<info@easterncatholic.org>](mailto:info@easterncatholic.org).

Please register for its "CATECHESIS in the PANDEMIC" webinar this Tuesday, September 15, 2020 @ 8 - 9pm.

If you register for it, but are unable to attend the live webinar: most likely its video recording will be emailed to you the next day to watch at your convenience. (Sr. Cecelia will give her 1st & 2nd year 1st Penance/Communion students the Grade 2 God With Us book.)

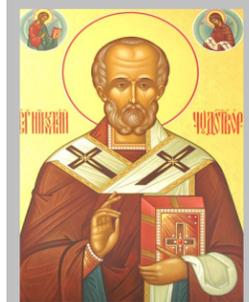


(Sr. Cecelia will give her 1st & 2nd year 1st Penance/Communion students the Grade 2 God With Us book.)

Don't miss out on this golden opportunity!

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father
Please put a hand of protection this school year on all the Children Teachers And Staff
Watch over them
Protect them
Love them
We Thank you God
For all you do
Amen



Українська Католицька Церква Св. Миколая Слава Ісусу Христу!



Pastor: Rev. Andriy Dudkevych



Pastoral Care:

In emergencies, please call Fr. Andriy directly - mobile **267-269-4990** if you, a family member, or someone you know who cannot attend church, is homebound, hospitalized, or gravely ill and will need the Eucharist or Anointing of the Sick.

DO NOT WAIT TO THE LAST MINUTE.

Church Mailing Address:

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Passaic, NJ 07055

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Pyrohy: 973-778-9734

Parish School:

Sr. Eliane, SSMI - Principal

Phone: 973-779-0249

Convent: 973-778-0208

Cantors :

Anatoli Dolyk - Ukrainian

Jerome Mykietyk - English

СВЯТІ ЛІТУРГІЇ:

Неділя: 8:30 р., [АНГЛ].

10:30 р., [УКР]

На будні: 7:00 р.,

Субота:

8:00 р., і 5:00 пп.

Свята: 9:00 р., і 6:00 пп.

DIVINE LITURGIES:

Sunday: 8:30 am, [ENG]

10:30 am, [UKR]

Weekday: 7:00 am,

Saturday:

8:00 am, & 5:00 pm.

Holy Days:

9:00 am, & 6:00 pm.

СПОВІДЬ:

Перед Св. Літургіями - в Суботу вечером.

Неділі - Святочні дні.

CONFESSIONS:

Before Liturgies - Saturday evening.

Sundays & Holy Days.



ЗАПРОШУЄМО НА КАВУ

Heartfelt ThankYou is extended to Steve and Lori Retkwa, and Natalie Gribbin, who donated **\$1,000.00 each** for our annual **Parish Festival**. May God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Although we are unable to host the Festival this year due to the pandemic, we are very grateful for the donations. Our annual Festival is a major fundraiser for the parish.

Flood Victims in Ukraine Donations

To date, our Parish has donated **\$3,180.00** to the Archeparchy Facebook Drive to Aid Flood Victims in Ukraine. Once again our parishioners are witnesses to God's commandment to love one another by sharing their good fortune with those in need. We thank everyone for their donations and pray for all for good health and happiness.



Announcement from the Pyrohy Ladies: A reminder to all parishioners. The Pyrohy Ladies continue to collect gently worn clean clothing - men's, women's, children's, as well as towels, sheets, blankets, quilts etc. As you are doing your Summer cleaning of your closets and drawers, preparing for the Fall, consider donating for their project that benefits the Parish. Your donation is greatly appreciated. Thank You! Any questions, please phone Oksana Hrubec at 201-587-1343.

09-13-2020

Collections:

Parish - \$3,133.00.

Candle- \$210.00.

Diocesan -\$310.00.

Renovation -\$235.00.

TOTAL - \$3,888.00



St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church

Sunday - September 20th -16th Sunday after Pentecost - 15-та Неділя після Зіслання Св. Духа
 8:30 am +Justyna & Daniel Leszczyszak (with Panakhyda) Family
 +Myron Domaradz (with Panakhyda) Wife & Family
 10:30 am God's Blessings for our Parishioners

Monday - September 21st - Exaltation of the Holy Cross - Воздвиження Чесн. Хреста
 No services
 6:30 pm **МОЛИТВА НА ВЕРВИЦІ І БІБЛІЙНЕ КОЛО**

Tuesday - September 22nd
 Pastoral Spiritual Retreat - Священічї Реколекції

Wednesday - September 23rd
 Pastoral Spiritual Retreat - Священічї Реколекції

Thursday - September 24th
 Pastoral Spiritual Retreat - Священічї Реколекції

Friday - September 25th
 Pastoral Spiritual Retreat - Священічї Реколекції

Saturday - September 26th
 8:00 am +Wolter Zurawski Family
 5:00 pm +Anna Gres (with Panakhyda) Husband & Family
 +Michael & Maria Najda (with Panakhyda) Family

Sunday - September 27th -17th Sunday after Pentecost - 17-та Неділя після Зіслання Св. Духа
 8:30 am +Petro & maria Rusynko (with Panakhyda) Family
 +Olha Peltyszyn (with Panakhyda) Family
 10:30 am God's Blessings for our Parishioners

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ROSARY PRAYER GROUP
 Invites everyone to join us in the recitation of the rosary every Sunday, immediately after the 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy. Let us ask the Mother of God to intercede for us before Her Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Parish family that prays together, stays together.

МОЛИТОВНА ГРУПА
 запрошує всіх молитися на вервиці кожної неділі після першої Служби Божої. Просімо у молитві Матір Божу, щоб заступалася за нас перед Ісусом Христом. Парафіальна родина, коли молиться разом стоїть завжди разом.



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY AFTER THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS
Epistle - Galatians 2:16-20 ~ Gospel - Mark 8:34-38; 9: 1

At the conclusion of last Sunday's Liturgy, we knelt and prayed before the great sign of our Lord's victory over sin and death as we celebrated the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Today is the conclusion of the celebration of that feast, what we call in the Church its “**Leave-taking**.” But in the Christian life, we never leave behind the Cross, for our Savior calls us—just as He did His original disciples—to take up our cross and follow Him every day of our lives. That is not a command limited to a season of the church year; it is simply a necessary part of what it means to be a Christian.

People today are too familiar with the image of the cross. Some wear it as just another a piece of jewelry or otherwise use it to symbolize values or organizations that have nothing to do with the cross through which our Lord conquered death. Unfortunately, those who confess its true spiritual significance can easily rest content with beliefs about the cross without actually obeying the clear instructions of our Lord that we must deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow Him. Celebrating the Exaltation of the Cross with integrity requires that we confess truthfully with St. Paul: “*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.*”

The Lord's Self-Offering on the Cross for the salvation of the world is unique and all encompassing. As we chant when we especially celebrate the cross, “*Before Thy Cross, we bow down and worship...*” We must not respond passively to the cross, however, as though all the work has already been done in a way that requires nothing of us. For the only way to share in the Savior's life is to enter personally into the deep mystery of His sacrifice. He offered Himself fully and in free obedience to the point of death, burial, and descent into Hades in order to conquer the corruption to which we had enslaved ourselves. In order to embrace the liberation and healing of our Crucified and Risen Lord, we must die to all that holds us back from embodying the fullness of His great victory. That means offering ourselves without reservation for union with Christ in holiness as we become “partakers of the divine nature” by grace.

The Lord's command to take up our crosses, deny ourselves, and lose our lives has nothing to do with appeasing an angry Father by our suffering. It is not concerned with the pointless task of trying to earn forgiveness by paying a debt or meeting a legal obligation. Instead, it is about doing what is necessary to find healing. In order to regain physical health, we may have to do some painful and difficult things at times, like having surgery, going to physical therapy, or changing our diet. Those are not punishments, but simply what is necessary for us to regain our health in light of our particular physical condition. If we want to get better, we will put aside our preferences and accept the inconvenience.

The same thing is true for us spiritually. Offering ourselves to the Lord for the healing of our souls in whatever circumstances we face is how we take up our crosses. From the origins of the Church to this very day, that has meant literal martyrdom for those who refuse to deny Christ when the powerful of this world kill them as a result. For all who unite themselves to Christ, there must be some form of martyrdom as we die to self-centeredness by putting faithfulness to the Lord and service to our neighbors before satisfying our own desires. If we do not take up our crosses in the challenges that we face daily, whatever they may be, then we show that we are ashamed of Christ and of His Cross. We show that we want no part of Him and prefer to gratify our own desires instead of offering ourselves for the service of His Kingdom.

Like Peter, however, we may have such a poor understanding of the Messiah we serve that we will be unprepared when our eyes are opened to the truth. Today's gospel passage comes right after Peter tried to correct the Savior when He predicted His death and resurrection. The Lord said to him in response, “Get behind me, Satan, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.” Peter had likely envisioned the Messiah as a successful military leader who would defeat the Romans and give the Jews a powerful earthly kingdom. The idea of following someone like that appealed to his pride, for being the chief disciple of the new King David would bring riches, power, and glory.

When the Savior made clear that the religious leaders of Israel would reject Him, that He would be killed, and that He would rise from the dead, Peter was horrified to the point that he tried to set Christ straight. That is when the Lord said in no uncertain terms that to reject the cross was the way of the devil, the way of completely rejecting His ministry for the salvation of the world. Remember that Satan had tempted Christ in the desert by promising Him worldly power if He worshiped him. Now Peter provided the same temptation. That is when Christ told the disciples that they would have no part in Him if they did not also take up their crosses.

The same is true whenever we refuse to keep a close watch on our hearts. The ancient idols of sex, money, and power are worshiped openly in our culture, and we must be ready to embrace the cross of rejecting their powerful temptations. Today re-serving sexual intimacy for the union of husband and wife in marriage is widely considered archaic and oppressive. Pornography is easily available and generally accepted, even though it is poisonous in so many ways. Money and what it can buy often become the measure of our lives, regardless of what we say we believe. Many people today seem to take pride in hating those with whom they disagree about politics and in self-righteously and hypocritically condemning them. Nothing could be more contrary to denying ourselves and taking up our crosses than to embrace such temptations in our hearts. Nothing could be more deadly to our souls.

Thankfully, there was hope for Peter and there is hope for us also through our Lord's great victory over sin and death on His Cross. Let us celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross by showing that we are not ashamed of His Self-Offering for our salvation. No matter the circumstances of our lives, let us deny ourselves as we embrace the crosses of our lives. That is how we may all enter into the joy of the Kingdom. (*Excerpt from homilies of Fr. Philip Le Masters, Ancient Faith Ministries*)

Feast of Martyrs Sophia & her three daughters: Faith, Hope, and Love

On September 17, the Church celebrates the Martyrs Sophia and her daughters Faith, Hope and Love. These Saints were from Italy and contested for the Faith about the year 126, during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian. Faith was twelve years old, Hope, ten, and Love, nine; each was tormented from the eldest to the youngest. Saint Sophia and her daughters did not hide their faith in Christ, but openly confessed it before everyone. The emperor Hadrian (117-138), who ordered that they be brought to Rome, where he urged them to offer sacrifice to the goddess Artemis. The young girls remained unyielding. Then the emperor ordered them to be tortured. They burned the holy virgins over an iron grating, then threw them into a red-hot oven, and finally into a cauldron with boiling tar, but the Lord preserved them. Finally they were beheaded. Their mother Sophia mother was forced to watch the suffering of her daughters and mourned at their grave for three days, where she also fell asleep in peace; because of her courageous endurance in the face of her daughters' sufferings, she is also counted a martyr. The name Sophia means "wisdom" in Greek; as for her daughters' names, Faith, Hope, and Love (Charity), they are Pistis, Elpis, and Agape in Greek, and Vera, Nadezhda, and Lyubov in Russian. (*Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America - https://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints?contentid=208*)



CATECHISM - CHRIST OUR PASCHA - TODAY'S GOSPEL LESSON :
CROSS: Page 206, Section 625, 626; Page 210, Section 641; Page 223, Section 685
MARTYR: Page 112, Section 318

VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE !!! HELPING FLOOD VICTIMS IN WESTERN UKRAINE!

The Hierarchy of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia have issued an appeal to the faithful in the United States, to help people in flood areas in Western Ukraine, as have the Bishops of other Eparchies in the US and abroad. Monetary donations can be made through FACEBOOK, private donations, and through parish collections. Here at St. Nicholas, we will also be **collecting gently used clothing, home goods (linens, towels, etc.) that will be forwarded to CARITAS-UKRAINE or directly to the local parish**, for distribution to those who have lost so much in these devastating floods—many had their homes washed away, their farms and fields destroyed and much more. Know that there is a great need for children's clothing. As you are cleaning out your closets, drawers etc., consider this donation of clothing and if you are able, a monetary donation to help defray the shipping costs would be greatly appreciated. Please know that your donations of used clothing etc. can be placed in black plastic bags and delivered to the rear of the building at 212 President Street, Passaic, NJ. Check out the Facebook page of the Archeparchy for photos of the devastation and also of the help being given in the villages from the funds already raised in the Archeparchy: <https://www.facebook.com/archeparchyphilly/>